

All along the week, finished April 11th '61. New -

My dear Maria, I am certainly sadly behindhand in my journal, but since we have been again in New, my ordinarily quiet life has been amazingly broken in upon with very bitter & blither - But I must now make up the story where I left it off, having just reached Cambridge - As soon as Dr. Gray had finished tea, which he also fortified with a chop, he went out to call on Prof. Sedgewick, to whom Sir Wm. had given him a letter, but who was unfortunately away, & on Tom Thompson - Perhaps you may remember an acquaintance we made on board the boat between Rotterdam & London last autumn - And now I described him as very agreeable, & possessing such universal information - In our then separating he & Dr. Gray exchanged cards, & as it so happened, he was the person on whom we chiefly depended in Cambridge for viewing us about, & he was very kind & attentive - He is a large, handsome man, & very gentlemanly - Exceedingly well informed, especially in matters of literature & art - But yet he is one of those people I do not feel quite at my ease with, for I feel he knows so much on many of these subjects, for example painting, or sculpture, or architecture, that I do not dare to make remarks on such things, not that I am ashamed to show my ignorance, for that I am sure he knew, but some how he seemed to expect better of you - In truth I can't describe it exactly, but you can imagine perhaps - And I don't think he talked on any subject he did not understand - In truth I suppose for classical & miscellaneous learning, & as a connoisseur in art, he is one of the best informed persons I ever met, but for science he did not possess either knowledge or interest, further than any well informed & liberal-minded man would - it was not in his department - And yet I do not know that I have quite done him justice - for he was very interesting, talked easily & pleasantly, & was always polite & attentive - But I am sure I could never rattle on with him as I do with some people - And he is just one of those persons, who if I might stay in the back ground, would be a great delight to listen to - Well Dr. Gray did not see him that evening - And the next morning began with rain, so I settled myself to writing, but about 10^o & it having begun to clear off, Mr. Thompson called, & offered to escort us out - He came in Academic Robe, & a very handsome silk gown & the square cap, & I assure you they are very becoming, especially to a fine looking man with so much presence - Just making our way through a crowded market-place, we passed a sort of alcove erected

boat which they always leave its fine natural colour, & which joins such a fine dark line with age. ~~Extensive~~ ^{the} arrangement in joining them. The ceiling is at present concealed by a scaffolding; they are now finishing it according to Owen's original design, it having formerly only had a flat ceiling. Mr. Thompson showed us here what I saw once in one to whom English is native tongue could see without emotion, Milton's own handwriting. It seems he wrote his poems in a large hand book, & one of these Trinity College Library ones; it is kept in a glass case, & was placed at the conclusion of Lycidas you could see his corrections & alterations. And on the opposite page was the rough draft, where he first planned writing Paradise Lost as a dramatic poem. There was a cast (also) taken from Newton's face after death; it was very calm & beautiful. And a bust of Keble in his life - How too was there Waldegrave's famous statue of Keble, it is very beautiful, but a little too much of heaven & too little of earth for him - Mr. Thompson showed us some interesting old Greek manuscripts, some with Porson's notes in the margin, for Porson was of Trinity College, & so was Keble, another famous Greek scholar. He was Master of the college, & a man of most imperious temper, who ruled students & fellows with a rod of iron; they could not turn him out, but they took away his degrees one by one, until at length he was so stripped of honours, that Master of the college, he went about in an under-graduates gown. His note book is kept still; it came to the college with possession of his library, & among other things Mr. T. read us, such a date, saw -, playing bowls Sunday

Afternoon from my study window. Showing font & being kept from chapel. The saw also some old illuminated manuscripts. One must have seen very old, from the style, it was so grotesque. One ^{picture} evidently of Asha & the Children, the prophet stood on the top of a hill, nearly to his knees in some green grass, & on each side a certain distance. Down were placed symmetrical animals, dog, bear, cat, wolf, standing on their hind legs & holding in their mouths by the middle, two children, dressed in chat red garments, with painted hands & toes, looking up with much doubt & solemnity. - There were many interesting views of distinguished men, graduates of Trinity, in the Library. - After leaving that we walked a little through the beautiful grounds. They are in most admirable order laid out with nice walks through this exquisite English turf, & bordered by fine trees, & graceful bridges across the Cam (which in truth is nothing more than a small canal) & which comes close to the college. There were many of the little race-boats upon it - the lightest things you can

imagine - some 12 or 15 feet in diameter each end to a sharp point, & joining in
 the middle where they were about a foot wide, a seat for one row.
 Mr. Thompson then took us up to his room, looking out most pleasantly on
 this lovely grounds on one side & the courtyard on the other - There was one
 large room surrounded by book-cases, & a smaller one opening into it.
 There were couches & writing table & tables covered with handsome books
 & a large stand holding a great portfolio of engravings - There were some
 beautiful pictures on the walls, & one quite interesting one of Anne Bolyn
 over the fire place, which certainly did not give her much beauty! There
 is good reason to believe however, that it is an authentic portrait - Mrs. I. showed
 me a facsimile copied from another page of that book of Milton's,
 where his hand imitated leaves of it in the middle of the page & that of an
 announcement behind. - Recently we were summoned to lunch, & went
 down stairs to a handsome dining room, where there was a stylish lunch laid
 out of cold chicken, salad, sandwiches, & a sort of great maraschino covered with
 web. There was a fine bust of Byron here, which Mr. Thompson said was
 executed by one of Thorwaldsen's pupils in Italy, & is probably the best for
 which Byron sat, & from which Thorwaldsen took the features & likeness
 for the fine statue in the College library - This I should think was more true,
 for it has the raucousness in the brow & the sensuality & temper in the lips.
 We then went out again & through the arcade entered into the doorway
 leading to the hall - It is a very fine room, much like Christ Church hall
 at Oxford, Dr. Gray says, but that the proportions of that are finer - There
 is a lantern in the centre of the roof & underneath was an enormous
 brazier filled with charcoal all in a row, but the fumes, pass off so entirely
 through this lantern that you do not perceive them at all - There were
 some fine portraits over the door, one of Newton in a morning gown which
 looked almost genuine the features were so delicate, & a beautiful picture
 by Sir Joshua Reynolds, of the late Duke of Gloucester when a boy - This hall
 had not two tables running down the side ^{as most we were at the time} & one on the dais but there
 were two on the dais, & the whole body ^{of the floor} covered with tables, I think there
 were six & running the whole length of the room! - The students are obliged
 to dine in hall, & not allowed to be absent more than two days in the week
 without an excuse - London grateful Mrs. I. & friends have decorated the
 windows with their coats of arms in stained glass - There is a handsome
 carved oak screen running across the foot of the room, which was given
 by many of Bodley's memory, who was really enough a great patroness of
 this college - We went into the Rector's & saw two enormous tin chests

quit Beer. They are quite famous for their brewing. And then went up into
the "Combination room," as they call what is called "Common room" in
Oxford. It was a pleasant room with a mahogany semi-circular table
in front of the fire place, arranged with glasses, &c. for dinner hour was
near. There was a fine miniature here of ^{John is Cancellor of Cambridge University} Prince Albert. Then passing
by a door opposite to the one by which we entered the building, we came
into a fine large court with a covered architectural sort of conduit or
fountain in the centre; & on 3 sides were old towers, (can't remember
how old, but I believe the most modern one was James I.) The Masters
lodge formed the rest of that side where the gate was. And he is always
found to entertain royal personages who may visit Cambridge. The Queen
staid there when she came - just by ^{its} side we passed through a gate
leading to a little retired yard or garden, filling the corner made by the angle
where two sides met, the loveliest, smoothest turf, like a velvet carpet, in
the centre, this was where the owl-players were overlooked by the Master.
But Mrs. Thompson says, they have stopped up that window now in
on the farther side of the tower in the centre of the side at right angles
with the lodge & hall, is the chapel, where we went to see Newton's statue;
it is in the aisle-chapel, & is certainly very fine - There is also a bust of
Johnson by the same sculptor, Kneller. I found there was another statue
which interested me much by Charles of Lord Bacon. An improved
copy as it were of the one which stands upon his tomb at St. Albans. In which he is
represented as sitting in his arm-chair in the position most natural
to him, & dressed in the costume of the time, trunk-ree, &c. which the
artist has well managed in giving faithfulness, but without grotesque effect.
The chapel itself is simple, but neatly fitted up with oak. We then
left the college under one of the towers opposite the hall, bidding Mrs.
Thompson goodbye, who had kindly asked Dr. Gray to dine with him in
Hall next day; (he said the Queen & some other great ladies were the only
ladies who had ever dined in Hall.) & I was to join them afterwards & go
to Evening prayers, & asked us to take coffee with him in the Caf. As we
walked on we concluded he could not expect us so early, so directly
after prayers - "My conclusion" as the sequel will show! - We went through
the Quadrangles of St. John's college; there were three of brick, each
differing from the other in architecture, & quite old. Crossing a bridge
over the Cam, which was covered with green painted windows at the
sides, we came upon a 4th built a few years ago in modern Gothic.

All the windows on the outside of the Colleges in the lower stories are grated
or barred; for a register is kept of the time each student comes in at night
after a certain hour, & of course they must be admitted by the porter
through the great gate - And those students who are permitted to bridge
out, their lodging-house-keeper must keep also a record of the hours they keep
out. We had a tremendous shower on our way back, & took shelter in a doorway
for awhile - And after we were safely housed there was a severe rain
storm - As it grew dark I was quite amused by watching the faces
of a group of people who were gathered under our windows by a band of
musicians, who played for some time in the rich way of our hotel.
Many faces were so different, & others so like what one sees at home; but
I was surprised to see people so gentle as some of them. Looked, standing
curiously to listen with the rest of the crowd ^{Mr. Washington capt. in the 1st.} - We were out up wonder-
fully early the next morning, & soon after breakfast, went out to look
about - We walked some distance in one direction, & saw the curious
old round church of the three in England, Cambridge, &c. - By look-
ing about & returning once or twice we at last got in; the straight channel
must have been added much later, but the round part must be very
very old! It is low, & the walls of monstrous thickness - It is now used as
the vestibule, & has been recently "done up" with a new tiled floor & new
painted glass in the very narrow windows - We wandered about the
streets & found we were too late for some services so early for others, &
at last decided to return to our hotel & wait until the afternoon.
Sermon at St. Mary's, the University Church - So at two we repaired
there. There is nothing very striking in the interior of the church - It is
arranged as at Oxford, the body for the grandees & dignitaries, only there
are two galleries on each side for the students, & then a gallery over
the choir where the Masters of Colleges & such great people sit. I was
quite struck with the unintellectual, homely faces of the young men
in the gallery opposite us! But a bit of the fine looking Englishmen.
After church, as we were walking in Trumpington St. a young man
after passing us, came running back & begging Dr. Gray's pardon said he
believed he met us travelling last summer, & on our not looking quite
sure, said at the little inn at ^{an old} ~~the~~ ^{where} ~~the~~ ^{Frenchman was} ~~the~~ ^{one of our mountain excursions} ~~the~~ ^{local}
then remembered him perfectly, saying he travelled the same route
days; & this last day after crossing the Furca, we all arrived at this
little mountain inn, delayed with wet, & eager to get anything to eat.
That the old Franciscan monk who kept it would give us. And Dr.

Gray looked very cross at this young man, because he by mistake took our
dinner, which was brought before him - And this old Frenchman, a most
jolly, amusing man, kept us all in peals of laughter with his attempts
to talk German & English, & his comment, which he meant as highest praise
on Queen Victoria, as "his respectable" - He always called Dr. Gray "Monsieur le
Professeur de Botanique" - Well - this travelling acquaintance introduced
himself as ^{at first as I did to South Africa} Dr. Thompson, said he belonged to Cairns (pronounced
Kays) College, & after offering to show us round, invited Dr. Gray to dine with
him in Hall the next day - Now wasn't it odd that travelling
acquaintances turned out so polite & agreeable? And this one particularly,
such a nice chance one that we had scarcely spoken to, & certainly never
expected to meet again! - He returned to the hotel, Dr. Gray to dress to
dine with Mr. Thompson, which he enjoyed very much, & said was truly
quite an imposing sight, & one he enjoyed highly seeing that par-hall filled
with students! - The thanks are returned after dinner (for custom at all English
tables) by two of the students coming to the head of the room & reciting a Latin
Grace - I took my solitary dinner, & prepared to be ready when
the fly should come to carry me to chapel. I had on my black silk one, &
three English, thick silks, (which the rain at Oxford had made to crinkle &
crinkle so that its beauty had certainly departed, & when dressing in the morn-
ing I reflected I should be out all day, & so it was not worth while to put
on a nice collar to be crumpled & soiled under my knit-jacket & sack, &
I chose one rather plainer - Then I had had on a fresh pair of sleeves, but
they were an unlucky sort that would tumble up & look dirty, & as it had
been very chilly, I thought, to be out in the fog, I would draw my wrists
over them. Of course I did not rearrange my hair or provide a cap, so I laid
out everything, my watered silk &c. &c. to make a more elegant toilette on re-
turning to appear at Mr. Thompson's in the Ev. And of course I wore my great-
clumping boots, for I never venture out in England now without my feet well
protected - So at six I had my bonnet on, which never was a beauty & cer-
tainly has not gained with age & wear, & so to Chapel, & the fly drove up to
the great tower gate as youths in white surplices were hastening in - As
soon as it stopped Mr. Thompson appeared to escort me, looking immensely
& now handsome in the fair whiteness of fresh & nicely starched surplices,
Mr. Walbington keeping out meekly from behind him in his black gown,
for he belongs to St. John's - As we walked across the court we met Dr.
Gray with another gentleman, & joining went into Chapel - Mr. Walbington put me
in a state between him & another white robe, but Dr. Gray went & gathered on -
Gradually the whole chapel filled - There were two ranks of seats in the walls, & rows
of benches ran down the body of the church, leaving only a narrow pathway in the

centres; & seated as clouds on these no they could sit, were the students, & as it was Sunday they were all in white surplices. It was an interesting sight & would seem when all were standing in service; & contrary to my experience in Church in the afternoon, there were many very handsome & interesting faces, & I was surprised to see them generally so youthful in an English college. I noticed soon after service began, a man directly walking down the centre with a great, blacker roll in his hands, evidently 'marking off' each man's measure. You must remember, these were the students of Trinity College only, I think Mr. Thompson said there were 270 odd students. The service was choral & the music was very beautiful, & had an immensely fine & solemn effect from the number of good bass voices; & it is an impressive sound when a great chorus of many voices respond to the prayers. ^{The hymns chanted to us the same as at St. Patrick's, Dublin a very beautiful one, the 100th Psalm.} The little choristers who sing at the College Chapels are generally, I believe, boys who are chosen & receive their education, free from expense, from a master appointed for that purpose, in a school attached to the College; & the time of good scholars, they have a chance to be chosen among the students on the foundation. When service was through I looked for Dr. Gray to escort me round to change my attire, but I missed him; & when we got to the door we found Mr. Thompson's servant with umbrellas, for it poured with rain. I told Mr. S. I had thought he would not expect us so early, & had made an intelligence; but I could do nothing but go with him to his room. When Dr. Gray joined us there I was quite bewildered; Mr. S. said it poured with rain, & that they were backless; I knew nothing about dress, & only one lady was present; I saw he expected us there, & my going & coming back again would not be agreeable. So after awhile, I told him I must stay in my bonnet then all the time, & he & Dr. Gray found up stairs, with the assistance of his woman servant. I comforted myself down as well as I could. But I must confess I was sadly mortified; Francis's solemn exhortations "Remember, Jane, the reputation of the American Ladies is to be supported by you, & dress well." ^{was before you -} I thought, if she, or Lizzie, or Susan, or father, could see me, what would they say? And a man evidently so particular & elegant! Well there was nothing left to be done but to carry it off as well as I could, & I went up stairs, & tried to be very agreeable, particularly to Mrs. Challis, when she came with her daughter, a sweet young lady of 17 or 18. - Prof. Challis is distinguished as an astronomer, he is a quiet looking man, short, with a great, round head & high forehead from which the hair stands off like a frame; Mrs. Challis is a domestic looking London girl, whose great concern seemed to be Prof. Challis's enormous amount of labour. The other personages were, Mr. Fayer, vicar-master of Trinity, next whom Dr. Gray sat at dinner, & a country clergyman, an old fellow in years gone by, who had not been in Cambridge for some time, & was full of quaint stories, (as Dr. Gray said), and a queer looking man who looked as if he had been there about all the time, never learned tomes, & felt awkward & out of place if he raised it to look into the world. I cannot think of his name, but he has lately edited a new edition of Newton's works. He had a pleasant wife, Mr. Thompson was very agreeable, & his mouth & teeth are perfect.

early good, especially when he smiles. But for all that it is not a very joyful, im-
modest looking smile. - a little too much sarcasm lurks in it. A little of the
simplicity of Krumpholtz's Dr. Gray likes him much, & says he has such a sound, well
informed, liberal mind! And he gets a very responsible place. He is no longer
young, & is one of the 204 head doctors, who have everything to manage. He did
not stay very long. - On Sunday morning we met Dr. at the City Hall Museum,
a fine modern building, built from a fund bequeathed with certain collections
to the University, by a Vincent City William. - The exterior is very handsome. The
interior is unfinished, except in certain rooms, but handsomely planned in
every respect. There are some good paintings here - One of Titian's I did not ad-
mire, but some of the Dutch school, the Rembrandts, & some Italian ones, I did -
I find my eye improving for the Italian school. There is a collection of ad-
mirable casts from famous antiquities, & a good library where we saw some in-
teresting sketches of Rembrandt's "Hence For". Accompanied us to the University
Library, looking on our way into one or two lecture rooms, which are not nearly
so comfortable or so well arranged as ours are; the students having only narrow
benches without backs to sit upon, & quite crowded together. At the Library he left
us in charge of the Librarian, Mr. Powell or Powers, the gentleman whom Dr. Gray
was walking with when I met him entering the Chapel the evening before. Mrs.
made us good ~~company~~ ^{company} cannot leave yet to regret that I was not more cordial &
grateful, for I did not think at the moment that that we should see him a-
gain. - And he certainly had been most kind & attentive, without our having
any claim upon him. The Librarian was also very kind to us. He showed
us an old curious Persian manuscript, worth its weight in gold, with a few
Persian bindings & curiously illuminated, & a little book of devotion, with two or
three signatures of Edward VI. ^{the} first book ever printed in England, & a beanie
on chess; & the old Greek manuscript of the popes owned by Baza, a which
is one of the great authorities. - There were some fine & interesting books,
& for arrangement in saving room for shelves & getting light, I think
it is the best ^{Library} I have seen. - After looking about awhile, the gentleman in-
vited on escorting us to see Prof. Sedgwick's Geological fossil, &c. Museum,
which is a fine collection. - And then he took us into Clare Hall, a little College
consisting of only one quadrangle, where he is fellow. - There was a great chapel
with a circular ante-chapel. - And the Combination room opened from
a gallery running across the end of the hall opposite the door. It was
a fine room, with a great curious antique old grate & carved oak
fire-place, & a quiet library opened from that, looking very old. They
all opened one into the other, in a pretty vista. - Then he took us into
Trinity Hall, another small college, where he ^{had been} student, that we might
see its pullidly laid out grounds. And in the Combination Room, where
was again a semi circular table surrounding the fire-place, ^{there} was a set

of railroad connecting the two ends of the house. We passed the decanter
across. - He then made us good-bye, but came running after us before we
were across the street, to take us into the Senate House, their Exhibition
Hall here. - The students were undergoing examinations, so the hall was
filled with tables running the length, at which were seated the young
men, writing answers to a printed form of questions from them. And that
there might be no assistance from neighbours, there were two sets ^{of questions} (A & B),
so that each man had not the same as his neighbour, & gave tutors
in robes were walking about. - It was a fine room, fitted up with oak.
There is much more vanity in the undergraduates dress than in
Oxford, each college having something to distinguish it. And the poorer
men Commoners & noblemen wearing from highly decorated with silver
lace at some of them. - And the students must appear with from
a Cap in Chapel, in Hall, at Examinations, lectures, &c. &c. - After taking a
little lunch at our hotel, we went to see Jesus College, which lies some
distance off. - It is on the foundations of an old monastery, & the Chapel, which
had got very much out of repair, they are now restoring; & a little too
much thought of elaboration & gay coloring for my taste, for I do not admire
these gay ceilings or so much ornament. - There was a fine hall here.
+ It is curious how Cambridge differs from Oxford. One cannot quite tell when
it lies, perhaps, because none of the buildings are brick. They have not
that very ancient, quiet, monastic air, but yet some of the Cambridge
Colleges ^{are} very old; but Cambridge looks more classical. - I think on the
whole my heart turns to Oxford. On our return we got some prints, &
then staid to see a famous picture of Cromwell at Sidney Sussex
College, but could not find them, as the room was occupied, & we had not
time to return. - Dr. Gray went back to make himself ready to dine at
Lavis. He enjoyed the dinner much, & said there were many agree-
able men, mostly young; & after adjourning to the Combination Room,
he went with them to Chapel, & then to Mr. Machonzie's room, & so
was not back until quite late, when he ran off again to call on Mr. Thomp-
son, whom to our great regret, he did not find at home. - ^{At last} after
packing, I had my never failing occupation of writing. I ought not to
omit our walk on Sunday after church, through the quadrangles
of St. John's, & over that bridge, which looks I think as some must, the
fine towered College buildings rising from the water on each side,
& then out from the cloisters into the beautiful grounds, and I cannot
tell you how lovely a bank was on the other side of a sort of ditch, quite

viewed with primroses, globe hyacinths, &c. &c. such lovely, graceful, yellow tufts! Then over another bridge we returned through the Quadrangles of Trinity. It is a great privilege to have such lovely walks. And at both Oxford & Cambridge the students have these beautiful grounds attached to the University as it were, the charming, private gardens & lawns which are the property of the College have admission, & the quiet courtyards & cloisters certainly the outside view seems very fascinating.

We were up early & by Ely from Ely. For we wanted to see Ely Cathedral on our way to London, so we left our luggage at the Station, & took the 8 o'clock train - Ely was called the Isle of Ely from the low marshes round it in former times, & it was the only elevation for miles, it was a sort of refuge for some monks when England was overrun by the Danes, & its old history is quite curious, & now in later times it stood out against them the Emperor. The Cathedral is built in the foundations of a Church, & monastery, & the site of some early priory & certain portions of the church from the 12th & 13th centuries, the fabric of some high windows, & some memorials are of the 14th & 15th centuries & some portions of the choir & transept are built in Norman style, with round arches, but a tower in the centre fell & crushed the arches in the Choir, & the centre was rebuilt by the most famous architect, a century or two later, when Gothic had come in, with an octagon in the centre rising to a lantern, & extending pointed arches & cupolas the three thrown down - You will find plates of it in various towns English Cathedral Churches, & they are worth examining for the interior is very beautiful - The choir is finished with columns of black polished marble, which sometimes singly, sometimes clustered, are charmingly set off against the lighter stone, & certainly the choir is wonderfully beautiful. And the whole interior is very fine - it is now under repair, & the old white wash from the columns, & ceiling the roof, & the richly carved stalls, & attempting to restore the beautiful little Chapel in the South Aisle, which was filled with figures & statues, & the whole in most elaborate & graceful Gothic, but in Cromwellian times the figures were knocked down, & if they could not do that they knocked the heads off! There are two of these chapels, & later date than the Cathedral & different from themselves, but very elaborate & beautiful in archaic lecture - Adjoining is what was formerly the Lady Chapel, but is now used as a parish church - the proportions, the elaborate finish inside & out, its Gothic niches with their graceful canopies quite lining the interior, make it the study of architects. There are traces of the interior having been formerly all in bright colour, the back of each nave red, thus throwing out the open work carvings.

people wear those things here - We found Mr. Wootley & Anne, Rogers - and
recently Mr. Bensen, son to the Justice Minister, & his sister arrived,
& then Mr. Samuel Turner & his wife, whose daughter, Anne Bensen
married, & then George, the Prince's son, for the dinner party was for
them and it is an immense connection, ~~which is not a small one~~ - Mr.
Lawrence kindly introduced me to the King's children, who were pleasant
to, & then old Mrs. Turner came up to me & introduced himself, asked
me what my name was & my connection with Mrs. Lawrence - He said -
"I am a friend of Dr. Ray's" & Dr. Ray was stood by, he said he was one of the most interest-
ing people ever saw & the Vice & then returned to pleasant again! But
Mr. Bensen handed me on to dinner & I sat between him & Mrs. Bensen & the
ladies, & they were both very pleasant. (The dining room is a very handsome
room. Some large pictures in the walls & a plan of the city painted in red
There ^{so} I think at dinner - the table was very handsomely set in the French
fashion, that is with the dessert upon it, fruits in handsome dishes arranged
with green leaves, bonbons tastefully displayed, fancy cakes, &c. &c. & two
splendid candelabra, ^{some three or four feet high} on the sides, & in the centre a huge silver with
brass feet, figures, some three feet high, on each side, a handsome vase
filled with high & artificial flowers - The dishes were put on the table, but
taken off to be carved, & each handed to every person, so that you might have
what you choose, a good way I think at each large dinner, where it is a great
boon for the gentlemen to carve, & where modest people are often starved
when they must ask for what they want - It was a very handsome dinner.
But Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence were exactly the same as in Paris & I, you have only
to fancy the house in London instead of Boston. But I should think
the English would like our manners, they are so much easier than
theirs - Talk of Northerners as formal compared to Southerners, we are
half-fellow-well-met compared to English manners, especially when we
quainted - I had more chance of seeing in the evening the party manner
of high life; & though you see some very high bred, an indescribable ele-
gance & composure, I would not change for it our greater ease & uncon-
sciousness, our willingness to amuse & be amused, & simplicity & abandon -
& I believe the English like it in us, especially the gentlemen, when it is not
coarse or carried too far, as you sometimes see it when a person wishes
to be at ease - I had rather see elegance & reserve at a distance than come
in contact with it - Well when the ladies left the room we went up
stairs into the drawing room, & they were beautiful rooms - Two seated
each other & were quite surrounded by mirrors & tall hangings - The

ceiling was beautifully painted, & there handsome tables inlaid with
painted porcelain, &c. &c. - sofas, couches, & in the back room a piano &
band of music - A better boudoir with gold & silver damask furniture
& hung with pictures taken from the back room, and another room
hung with pictures, some very pretty, from the front - It was a very
elegant suite of rooms as far as I could see, for I was so much taken
up with people I did not look much at the furniture - I soon saw
it was a reception night, & wanted to stay & see the fun, so I begged
to delay when Dr. Gray came to say it was 10¹/₂, when we had ordered our
carriage - I got a position near the door to see people come in, but
Mrs. Lawrence, as soon as she saw me, kindly begged I introduce people -
A young man, Mr. Drummond, grandson of the Duke of Rutland, & niece
of Lady Wootley's of dissipated memory, & another person whose name I can
not remember, who has been in Boston, but who was now in America &
told me the names of several interesting people - Lord Brougham, who
was Sir John Cam Brougham, my friend, a shortish man with a
fine large head covered with light hair, a good face & Christian features -
Mrs. Lord Brougham, with a great star brand on her neck, & two diamonds
with a superb emerald necklace - and I met with another woman
star on her coat, & two diamonds on her face in a pair of diamonds, &
call a "dij", & Lady Gresham with a cap of gold set with pearls, & pearls in
round clicking & jingling when she moved - Mrs. Glover, brother of the
Speaker, a fine looking man; Lady Morgan, a little bit of a woman in
black velvet to her throat with fur trimmings & feathers on, & a long
veil - mantle on her head, which was prettily fastened in some one
& yard behind - She has a sharp nose, & keen eyes & looks wide awake
till & well ^{at} ~~at~~ is quite tart & tart, but I should think she would
have been hot if she had only stood in one place & all the world
came by, & I got a position next Mrs. Bensen, whom we met at Mrs.
Gray's, & two gentlemen & her comments were irresistible - If they did
not know always people's names, she knew they were those names last
year, & how Mrs. Morgan had become Mrs. Gray, &c. &c. Occasionally
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence would seize hold of it, say & I & drag us out
to be introduced to some one - Dr. Gray had the full honors of his title

and I should not wonder if we were known as the only "inter-
sections" of such high order in Boston. - But there were certainly some kind
& attentive - the introduction was to Dr. & Mrs. Jewell of Cambridge.
He is Master of Trinity, & he expressed great regret at not having seen us
there, heard of it & was coming, but we had left - he has a great head & a strong
will, but I don't like the expression, stern, hard, ~~hard~~, & I could never trust it.
Between you & ^{me} the noblemen are not generally to be known by their
looks - such a little piece as walked about as Thackeray of Thafford, with
an enormous white cravat, he tried to look over the crowd, but he was short
& couldn't - there were some very handsome women, & some very ugly;
some very handsomely dressed, & others as if they were trying to get the
most effective combination of form, one woman only had two flowers
back half a yard deep, & a point down her back which quite met
them - Another had a wreath of grapes, purple & white, natural
size, as wide as some hand; but she was certainly no Bacchante in
face, being stout & matter of fact. Now as it was, persuading
one to go, the Duke of Wellington came in - He is shorter than I had
supposed, he never could have been a tall man, though he is now
much wiser with age - And the face is not quite so noble as I had
fancied - Still the pictures are very like him - He stood talking
some time with a very pretty girl, & with her mother & sister, who
is quite a set of six, Miss Patton - then was another very handsome
woman we called Mrs. Roschlyn I think is the name - At last
Dr. Jew said "it is as we went to bid Mrs. Lawrence good evening she
stopped us to introduce Mr. Eliot Warburton, an unimpressive
looking man with sandy hair & an intelligent face & I am so
sorry it is too late to write more today, & I must say good bye -
Many thanks to Lizzie & me for letters this week - I was very
much pained to hear about Mary Perkins - How long the time
seems until I can hear again - I was very glad to see Lizzie
hand writing again - It was some weeks since I had heard from
her - I have never rec'd any account from her of her summer party.
With ever, ever so much love to all, most affectionately, am.